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PATENT
Docket No.: 19603/481 (CRF D-2472A)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Harry
Mar. 10, 01

Applicants : Barany et al.
Serial No. : 09/528,014
Cnfrm. No. : Unknown
Filed : March 17, 2000
For : COUPLED POLYMERASE CHAIN
REACTION-RESTRICTION ENDONUCLEASE)
DIGESTION-LIGASE DETECTION
REACTION PROCESS

Examiner:
B. J. Forman

Art Unit:
1655

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the January 26, 2001, written restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect Group I (i.e., claims 1-17) with traverse.

However, applicants submit that all groups of invention identified in the outstanding office action are closely related and, therefore, would require common areas of search and consideration. No benefit is derived from maintaining the restriction requirement, and, therefore, this restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that the claims of Groups I and II should be examined on the merits at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 28, 2001

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C 20231 on the date below.	
2/28/01 Date	<i>Jo Ann Whalen</i> Jo Ann Whalen